(v) स्वदेशी तथा आयातित, दोनों नियंत्रणमुक्त पोटाशिक तथा फास्फेटिक उर्वरकों पर रियायतें।

Revamping the Namrup Unit of H.F.C.

468. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) when the plan and finance for revamping Namrup Unit of Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation, as declared by the Minister in the Winter Session of the Rajya Sabha, would be materialised;

(b) what decision has been taken on bifurcation of Namrup Unit from the H.F.C. for floating a new company, to regain the health of the Unit; and

(c) what are the reasons for not revising the pay scale of workers of Namrup unit which is long due, without waiting for bifurcation, to motivate them for higher productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) The revamp project of Namrup Units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) is under implementation, its Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract has been awarded on 2.11.98. negotiations by HFC for seeking term loan from financial institutions are at an advanced stage. During the period 1998-99, plan loan of Rs. 75 crore was sanctioned to HFC which has allocated Rs. 70 crore towards the capital expenditure of Namrup units.

(b) and (c) The proposal for segregation of Namrup Units from HFC to form a separate corporate entity is to be submitted to the Competent authority in the Government and final sanction of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. The above is required so as to implement the wage revision of Namrup units only.

Overseas Trips of KRIBHCO Officers

469. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item "Bureaucrats spend a Million, Score Duck" which appeared in "Statesman", Calcutta of 31st January, 1999 regarding overseas trips of bureaucrats and senior officials of KRIBHCO to different countries, without any result;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the status of joint venture fertilizer projects in Iran and Oman, with chronological details and the expected zero date to start the projects;

(d) whether any one has been held accountable for failure of projects in USA, Russia, Jordan, Tunisia etc.; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. If may, however, be noted that of the total expenditure of US$ 12,86,201 made on foreign visits by KRIBHCO from 1994-95 upto October, 1998, US$ 2,28,372 was incurred on participation in various training seminars/ workshops and conferences and US $ 9,83,271 has been incurred on visits undertaken in connection with various pre-project activities and meetings of the Joint Management Committees and Boards of Directors in relation to the joint venture projects in Oman and Iran. These projects are currently being pursued by KRIBHCO;

(c) MOU for joint venture project in Oman was signed in July 1994 and investment approval was given by government in December 1997. Financial

arrangements are bing finalized by the sponsors.

MOU for joint venture project in Iran was signed in March, 1994 and supplemented in November, 1996. International bids have been invited by the sponsors for the Engineering, Procurement & Construction contract.

Zero date for these projects would be fixed after finalization of various project agreements.

(d) and (e) KRIBHCO's initiative for setting up a joint venture phosphoric acid plants in Jordan, was dropped due to absence of firm buy back arrangement of acid. Proposal for setting up joint venture phosphoric acid plant in Tunisia was dropped due to withdrawal of the Tunisian joint venture partner. The proposal for acquiring old DAP plants in USA/Russia had to be dropped as the 'due diligence' exercise conducted by KRIBHCO revealed that the acquisition will not be commercially viable.

रासायनिक उर्वरकों के लिए कच्चे माल की आवश्यकता

470. लाला लाजपत राय: क्या रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) चालू वर्ष सहित आगामी तीन वर्षों के लिए रासायनिक उर्वरकों के उत्पादन हेतु कितने कच्चे माल की आवश्यकता है;

(ख) क्या इसे उचित मूल्यों तथा हमारे राष्ट्र के हित के अनुकूल निबंधन और शर्तों के अनुसार उपलब्ध कराया जाता है;

(ग) क्या सस्ती दरों पर कच्चा माल खरीदने की प्रक्रिया को सुचारू बनाने हेतु कोई दीर्घकालीन व्यवस्था की गयी है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० ए०के० पटेल): (क) रसायन उर्वरकों के निर्माण के लिए अपेक्षित कच्चे माल की मात्रा के आंकड़े केन्द्रीय रूप से नहीं रखे जाते हैं।

(ख) से (घ) प्रशासित मूल्य निर्धारण तंत्र को समाप्त करने के पश्चात तेल तथा गैस कंपनियों द्वारा तरल पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों तथा गैस के मूल्य आयात समता मूल्यों के आधार पर निर्धारित किये जाते हैं। कच्चे माल की आपूर्ति तेल/गैस कम्पनियों और उपभोक्ता एककों के बीच वाणिज्यिक बातचीत पर आधारित है।

मिश्रित फास्फेटिक उर्वरकों के निर्माण में प्रयुक्त कच्चे माल/मध्यवर्ती अर्थात् रॉक फास्फेट, सल्फर, फास्फोरिक एसिड तथा अमोनिया के आयातों को 1992-93 में असरणीबद्ध कर दिया गया था और "शून्य" सीमा शुल्क पर इनके आयात की अनुमति दी गई थी।

Financial assistance to FACT

471. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government and the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) made any request for financial assistance to FACT.

(b) if so, the steps taken; and

(c) the reasons for such loss only in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. FACT has submitted a proposal seeking inter-alia waiver of interest for a period of three years on Government loans taken for the ammonia replacement project and for rescheduling of the principal repayment. No decision has been made on the request of FACT so far.